

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 31 May 2011

Question: E11-568

OUTCOME 1: Population Health

Topic: COAG NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT ON PREVENTIVE HEALTH OUTCOMES

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Senator Boyce asked:

What are the outcomes expected from the COAG partnership agreement and from the Preventive Health Agency's strategic plan?

Answer:

The National Partnership Agreement on Preventive Health, consistent with the National Healthcare Agreement performance targets, will contribute to the following medium to long-term outcomes¹:

- a) increase the proportion of children and adults at healthy body weight by 3 percentage points within ten years;
- b) increase the proportion of children and adults meeting national guidelines for healthy eating and physical activity by 15 per cent within six years;
- c) reduce the proportion of Australian adults smoking daily to 10 per cent within ten years;
- d) reduce the harmful and hazardous consumption of alcohol; and
- e) help assure Australian children of a healthy start to life, including through promoting positive parenting and supportive communities, and with an emphasis on the new-born.

Under section 44 of the *Australian National Preventive Health Agency Act 2010*, the approval of the strategic plan by the Minister is subject to the agreement of the Australian Health Ministers' Conference. As such, the outcomes of the strategic plan are yet to be approved however, there is an expectation that outcomes will encompass monitoring, evaluation and building evidence in relation to preventive health strategies; facilitating health prevention research infrastructure; generating new partnerships for workplace, community and school interventions; assisting in the development of the health prevention workforce; and the coordination and implementation of a national approach to social marketing for preventive health programs.

¹ Reference: paragraph 10 - COAG National Partnership Agreement on Preventive Health